AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/751,340

Filing Date: January 3, 2004

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DEVICE COMMUNICATIONS

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraphs 0013, 0016, 0036, 0039 and 0041 with the following paragraphs:

[0013] More typically, devices, such as those described, for example, may transmit and/or receive digital data by use of one or more data protocols and/or by use of one or more communications media. In this context, a communications medium may comprise any medium capable of carrying data signals, such as twisted-pair copper wires, coaxial cable, fiber optic cable, and/or radio or infrared frequencies, as just a few examples. A data protocol may comprise a set of instructions by which data signals are transmitted over a communications medium. For example, without intending to limit the scope of the claimed subject matter, a protocol may comprise a packet-based data transfer protocol, such as Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), defined by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) standard 7, Request for Comments (RFC) 793, adopted September, 1981, hereinafter referred to as "TCP"; User Datagram Protocol (UDP), as defined by IETF standard 6, RFC 768, adopted in August, 1980, hereinafter referred to as "UDP"; and/or File Transfer Protocol (FTP), defined by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), Request for Comments (RFC) 959, adopted October, 1985, hereinafter referred to as "FTP". Additionally, a network layer protocol may be utilized, such as Internet Protocol (IP), as defined by IETF standard 5, RFC 791, adopted in September 1981, hereinafter referred to as "IP"; however, as previously indicated, these are just examples, and the claimed subject matter is not so limited. Additionally, a communication device may be configured to operate with a digital cellular radio network, such as a Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) network, and may be configured to communicate by use of one or more cellular protocols, including General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) and/or Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA), as just a few examples. GSM standards are defined by the European Telecommunication Standards Institute (ETSI), and more information may be obtained on the World Wide Web at the ETSI web site. Additionally, information regarding GSM, GPRS and CDMA specifications may be obtained from the 3.sup.rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) at the 3GPP web site.

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[0016] Continuing with this example, a system, such as network 100, may comprise a plurality of devices communicating by utilizing any number of protocols, communications media, and/or interfaces, for example. For example, although illustrated as a network coupled by access point 112, this is just one example of a particular embodiment. In an alternate embodiment, for example, one or more devices may be coupled by one or by a combination of different communications media, interfaces, and/or protocols, for example, as explained in more detail hereinafter. Likewise, a digital communication device for this particular embodiment may have the capability to access another device on the network, such as, for example, a network storage device, by anyone of a variety of mechanisms, including radio waves, infrared signals, a TCP/IP network connection, a GSM connection, and/or a Universal Serial Bus (USB) connection, for example, although, again, the claimed subject matter is not so limited. The USB specification, revision 2.0, is defined by the USB implementers forum, released April, 2000, ("USB"), available from the USB implementers Forum, 5440 SW Westgate Dr., Suite 217, Portland, Oregon 97221. More information is available on the World Wide Web at the USB web site.

[0036] Once the requesting device is authenticated, the authentication device may provide at least a portion of the data to connection manager 188. Connection manager 188 may establish a connection to the requested device, which may be remote device 190, for example, and may establish a logical connection between the requesting device and the requested device, for example. This connection may be established by using a TCP port on the requesting device and the remote device 190, and may be configured to utilize a data protocol, such as Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), revision 1.1, defined by the World Wide Web Consortium, Request for Comments (RFC) 2616, ("HTTP"), adopted June 1999, revision 1.1. More information is available on the World Wide Web at the W3C web site. For example, TCP port 80 may be employed in one embodiment, although the claimed subject matter is not limited in scope in this respect. In this particular embodiment, the request information may contain an IP address of the requesting device and an IP address of the requested device. Connection manager 188 may, therefore, in this embodiment, access a port on the respective devices, and establish a logical connection.

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[0039] One or more of the media devices of LAN 172 may comprise a device capable of executing a digital audio file, such as an MP3 file, for example, and may be capable of communicating with other devices through a communications media, such as radio waves, for example. The MPEG-1 Layer 3 Audio Codec (mp3) is defined by the Moving Pictures Expert Group (MPEG), under the International Standards Organisation (ISO), developed 1992, ("mp3"), available on the World Wide Web at the mp3-tech web site.

[0041] Of course, there are a variety of ways to provide a logical connection between one or more devices, such as devices coupled to LAN 172. Devices such as these may be capable of communication by use of one or more communications media, which may comprise different media for different devices on the LAN. For example, media device 174 may communicate by use of infrared signals with remote control 178, and may communicate by use of radio waves with media device 176, for example. Additionally, it is understood that the devices may not use a common protocol for communications. For example, one device may communicate by use of the Ethernet Protocol, as defined by the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) standard 802.3, 2000 edition ("Ethernet Specification"), available from IEEE standards, 445 Hoes Lane, P.O. Box 1331, Piscataway, N.J., 08855-1331. Additional information may be found on the World Wide Web at the IEEE web site. Conversely, another device may communicate by use of one of the 802.11 wireless protocols, as defined by the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) standard 802.11, 1999 edition ("802.11 Specification"), available from IEEE standards, 445 Hoes Lane, P.O. Box 1331, Piscataway, N.J., 08855-1331. Additional information may be found on the World Wide Web at the IEEE web site.